

Message Text

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P 091809Z DEC 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 299469

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (BOLLING, LANDRUM)

SUBJECT: LANDRUM BOLLING'S TOUR OF ME COUNTRIES

1. DEAN BROWN INFORMS US THAT LANDRUM BOLLING, HEAD OF ELI LILLY FOUNDATION AND PROMINENT PARTICIPANT IN PAST STUDIES OF ME AFFAIRS CONDUCTED BY PRIVATE AMERICAN ORGANIZATIONS (E.G., QUAKERS), WILL DEPART U.S. EVENING OF DEC 8 ON FACT-FINDING TOUR OF LEBANON, SYRIA, JORDAN, EGYPT AND POSSIBLY SAUDI ARABIA. BOLLING, WHO REPORTEDLY IS TRAVELLING PURELY IN HIS CAPACITY AS LILLY FOUNDATION HEAD, PLANS STAY IN BEIRUT UNTIL SUNDAY, DEC 12, AND THEN PROCEED TO DAMASCUS. REMAINDER OF HIS ITINERARY, AS WELL AS EXACT TIMING THEREOF, HAS NOT BEEN FULLY DETERMINED. BROWN INFORMS US THAT, ACCORDING TO BOLLING, HIS TOUR, PORTIONS OF WHICH HAVE BEEN COORDINATED HERE WITH EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR GHORBAL, IS KNOWN TO PRESIDENT-ELECT CARTER'S

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FOREIGN POLICY ADVISERS, WITH WHOM BOLLING HAS BEEN IN TOUCH

AND WITH WHOM HE WILL BE IN TOUCH INFORMALLY FOLLOWING HIS RETURN.

2. BOLLING'S ACTIVITIES REPORTEDLY WILL INCLUDE DISCUSSIONS WITH HIGH-LEVEL OFFICIALS AND OTHER INFLUENTIAL PERSONALITIES (INCLUDING YASIR 'ARAFAT) IN COUNTRIES TO BE VISITED. BROWN STATES THAT, DESPITE FACT THAT CARTER ADVISERS ARE

AWARE OF BOLLING'S TRIP, HE WILL BE SPEAKING FOR HIMSELF ALONE, AND NOT RPT NOT FOR ANYONE ELSE.

3. PURPOSE OF THIS MESSAGE IS TO ALERT YOU TO BOLLING'S TRAVEL PLANS IN ORDER THAT YOU MIGHT BE PREPARED TO PROVIDE HIM WITH WHATEVER CUSTOMARY ASSISTANCE (E.G., BRIEFINGS, APPOINTMENTS, ETC.) HE MIGHT REQUEST. ROBINSON

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